

## Significant Task Force Cases

### **228 grams of Base Cocaine seized.**

**San Francisco BNE, Campaign Against Drug Abuse (CADA) Program, GSET team, and the San Francisco Police Department** served a search warrant at a residence in the Western Addition District of San Francisco. This district is known for open street sales of "crack cocaine," drive by shootings, homicides and gang activity. During the search 228 grams of cocaine base was seized. Two suspects were arrested.

### **After two years of hiding in Mexico, "El Penguino" is arrested.**

**Orange BNE** office seized 38 kilograms of cocaine. One of the suspects was known only as "El Penguino" (The Penguin). El Penguino had returned to Mexico and agents were unable to identify or arrest him for his part in the narcotics conspiracy. A federal warrant was issued for the arrest of El Penguino. Orange BNE agents received information that El Penguino was planning a trip to the United States, and would be staying at a hotel near Knott's Berry Farm. With the assistance of the FBI and U.S. Customs, El Penguino was surveilled and stopped as he was driving toward the Mexican border south of El Centro. El Penguino was arrested on the outstanding federal warrant for cocaine distribution.

### **Buy-bust nets 5 pounds of methamphetamine.**

A joint operation between **Sacramento BNE** agents and **San Joaquin SO METRO Task Force** agents culminated in the buy-bust operation for five pounds of crystal methamphetamine in Stockton. Three suspects were arrested.

### **93 marijuana plants indoor grow operation discovered.**

**Sacramento BNE** agents, **Sacramento Sheriff Narcotic Officers**, and Sacramento BNE agents assigned to **CAMP (Campaign Against Marijuana Planting)**, conducted surveillance of a warehouse located in Sacramento, and a residence in Fair Oaks. Based on information developed during the surveillance, for the cultivation of marijuana, search warrants were served at the locations. Seized at the warehouse was an indoor marijuana garden consisting of 93 plants and approximately 14.35 pounds of processed marijuana. Two loaded handguns, and a shotgun were seized at the residence. Three suspects were arrested.

### **Gang member arrested with one pound of methamphetamine, stolen vehicle, and an assault weapon.**

**Orange BNE/GSET** along with agents from the **California Department of Corrections, Law Enforcement Investigations Unit, Fugitive Apprehension Team**, arrested a parolee-at-large and "Delhi" gang member for possession of a pound of methamphetamine, a stolen vehicle, possession of a Tech-9 pistol, and \$3,500. A second suspect was also arrested for the possession of the methamphetamine.

### **Joint investigation with CDC nets meth, marijuana, weapons, cash, and a Corvette.**

**Yuba/Sutter Narcotic Task Force** completed a joint investigation with **California Department of Corrections (CDC)** officers from Dual Vocational Institute (DVI). The CDC officers were investigating the smuggling of drugs into the Institution. The Yuba City S.W.A.T. Team served search warrants in Yuba City and Marysville. Seized at the residence in Yuba City were two handguns, 3/4 of a pound of methamphetamine, scales, packaging, one pound of processed marijuana, a 1984 Chevrolet Corvette, and \$1,125. Seized at the residence in Marysville, were seven grams processed marijuana and drug paraphernalia. Three suspects were arrested.

### **Investigation nets half pound of methamphetamine.**

**Sacramento BNE** and the **Yuba/Sutter Narcotic Enforcement Team (NET-5)** agents conducted an investigation that resulted in a traffic stop of a suspicious vehicle and the seizure of 1/2 pound of methamphetamine. Two follow-up search warrants were conducted in Yuba City. Two suspects were arrested.

**Buy operation nets in 1 2 pounds of cocaine base, and the arrests of 13 suspects.**

**Yolo County Narcotic Enforcement Team (YONET)** agents, along with law enforcement teams from **Sacramento BNE, FBI, Placer SIU Task Force, W. Sacramento PD, Woodland PD, Davis PD, Yolo County Sheriff's Office, Yolo County District Attorney's Office, California Highway Patrol,** and **Yolo County Probation** culminated an operation of street sales of cocaine base from an apartment complex next to a school in West Sacramento involving gang members.

The investigation resulted in the arrests of 13 subjects, five of whom were documented gang members, the seizure of 1 2 pounds of cocaine base, one firearm, \$6,000, and four vehicles. All subjects were booked into federal custody.

**1,370 marijuana plants seized.**

**Sonoma County Narcotic Task Force (SCNTF)** observed two male adults working in a marijuana garden. A request for helicopter support was made. One male was taken into custody as the other fled on foot. A search of the area determined a marijuana garden where one thousand, three hundred seventy (1,370) plants were being cultivated. One suspect was arrested

**Probation search nets drugs and \$87,000.**

**Sonoma County Narcotic Task Force (SCNTF)** initiated a probation search at a residence in Santa Rosa. While securing the residence, detectives observed marijuana being cultivated in the back yard and what appeared to be a large amount of U.S. currency in plain view in a bedroom not belonging to the probationer. A search warrant was served and 1 ounce of cocaine, 1 ounce of methamphetamine and \$87,500 was seized. One suspect was arrested.

**Search warrants net 384 marijuana plants, 10 pounds on marijuana, three assault rifles, and \$41,000.**

**Napa Special Investigations Bureau (NSIB)** agents executed search warrants at three residences, including a marijuana-growing operation in Napa. Agents seized 10 pounds of dried and processed marijuana "bud", three assault rifles and \$41,738. Continued investigation led NSIB to execute a search warrant in Suisun City, at a vacant residence used for the purpose of growing marijuana. Agents seized 384 marijuana plants, and three suspects were arrested.

**7,000 marijuana plants grow operation seized.**

**Napa Special Investigations Bureau (NSIB)** with the assistance of **Campaign Against Marijuana planting (CAMP)** personnel arrested a suspect who was growing marijuana at a clandestine location near Lake Berryessa. Officers eradicated 7,049 plants with a street value of \$17,622,500.

**Three suspects wanted for stabbing are arrested.**

**Fremont Police Department (FPD)** responded to a gang related stabbing and requested the assistance of the **Southern Alameda County Gang Violence Suppression Task Force (SACGVSTF)**. SACGVSTF agents responded and adopted the investigation. Through investigative leads, three suspects were identified and arrested for the multiple stabbing of the victim.

**Over a pound of cocaine and \$66,000 seized from trafficker.**

**Santa Clara County Specialized Enforcement Team (SCCSET)** agents initiated an enforcement stop with the assistance of a **Santa Clara P.D.** marked unit on a vehicle driven by a suspect believed to be involved in cocaine trafficking. The suspect had a small amount of cocaine in his possession. Searches of the suspect's two residences resulted in the seizure of one and one-quarter pounds of cocaine and \$66,000. The suspect was arrested.

**Two murder suspects arrested.**

**Santa Clara County Specialized Enforcement Team (SCCSET)** assisted **Campbell P.D.** detectives with a homicide investigation by conducting surveillance on associated residences in Santa Clara County. A team of SCCSET and Campbell P.D. Officers arrested the two suspects for murder in San Jose.

### **Investigation of Nuestra Familia gang members net methamphetamine, 29 firearms, and \$35,000.**

**Santa Clara County Specialized Enforcement Team (SCCSET)**, with the assistance of the **San Jose BNE, San Jose P.D. (Merge) Team**, and **Santa Clara P.D.**, completed an investigation of Nuestra Familia (NF) Prison gang members with the service of three search warrants. The searches uncovered one-half pound of crystal methamphetamine, two ounces of heroin, two ounces of marijuana, a cane sword, 29 firearms (The weapons included two assault rifles, two sawed-off shotguns and a zip gun), \$35,000, and FBI documents. Three suspected gang members were arrested.

### **While out on bail, suspect caught with 2 ounces of methamphetamine.**

**West Contra Costa County Narcotic Enforcement Team (West-NET)** agents located a suspect who was out on bail for narcotic trafficking, and believed to be continuing his drug sales. With the assistance of the **San Pablo Police Department (SPPD)**, a traffic stop was conducted on the suspect. SPPD located 65.6 grams of crystal methamphetamine, 3.9 grams of cocaine HCL, 79.3 grams of marijuana, items associated with the sales of controlled substances, and \$705.00. The suspect was arrested.

### **Indoor grow operation seized.**

**West Contra Costa County Narcotic Enforcement Team (West-NET)** served a search warrant at a residence in Pinole. Agents located an indoor marijuana grow operation and seized 245 marijuana plants in various stages of growth, 379.0 grams of processed marijuana, items associated with the cultivation and sales of marijuana, eight (8) rifles, one (1) handgun from the residence, and \$1495. A warrant for the arrest of the suspect is being sought.

### **Seventeen pounds of ICE methamphetamine seized.**

**South Bay Methamphetamine Task Force** conducted surveillance of a residence in San Jose that was being operated as a methamphetamine "ICE" conversion. A vehicle was observed to make a short stop at the residence. It was stopped by a **San Jose PD** marked unit and found to have one pound of "ICE". A search warrant of the residence revealed seventeen pounds of "ICE" methamphetamine and a clandestine laboratory in the two car garage. Four suspects were arrested.

### **Investigation nets 64 pounds of methamphetamine, 2 kilos of cocaine, and \$267,000.**

**SBRNET** agents and **Glendale PD** Detectives conducted an investigation on a major methamphetamine trafficker. The suspect was observed to get into a vehicle driven by a suspect who had a no bail, federal warrant for his arrest, for conspiracy to distribute fifty-two kilograms of cocaine. **CHP** conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and both suspects were arrested. Inside the vehicle a hidden compartment was found to contain four pounds of methamphetamine and a loaded .40 caliber Glock handgun. \$68,455 was found in a shoebox on the rear seat of the vehicle. During the stop of the vehicle, one of the suspects called a residence in Granda Hills and told two women to take money out of the residence. (The residence was under surveillance, and the two women were found with a duffle bag containing \$199,020.)

Further follow-up investigation netted the seizure of twenty-seven pounds of methamphetamine and a brick sized amount of plastic explosive buried in the back yard of a residence in San Fernando. Also seized at the address were a Hummer H2 Limousine (22 passenger) and a 2004 pickle fork, pack speedboat. At another location twenty-four pounds of methamphetamine and 2 kilos of cocaine were seized.

### **152 kilos of cocaine, a Hummer, Tow Truck, Ducati motorcycle, and \$30,000 seized in search warrants.**

**LA IMPACT Group III**, along with the **Baldwin Park Police Department Special Investigations Unit**, served two search warrants, one in Yucaipa, and the second in Moreno Valley. Recovered from the residences were 152 kilograms of cocaine, 22 pounds of marijuana, 12 marijuana plants, four guns, three vehicles (1997 Hummer, 1997 Mitsubishi Tow Truck and a 1999 Ducati Motorcycle) and \$30,000.

### **Three Chino PD Officers overcome by toxic meth lab fumes in hotel room.**

**Chino Police Officers** conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle and arrested the two occupants for possession of an ounce of methamphetamine. The suspects gave a consent search for a motel room to the Chino Officers. Upon entering the

motel room three officers were overcome by toxic fumes from the methamphetamine laboratory. (On officer required medical treatment.) **San Bernardino County West End Narcotic Enforcement Team (SBWESTNET)** agents responded and secured the small methamphetamine laboratory for processing. The laboratory had the capability of producing 4 ounces of methamphetamine per cook cycle.

**\$5,000,000 in marijuana seized from residence.**

**Riverside BNE Inland Crackdown Allied (INCA) Task Force**, the **San Bernardino County West End Narcotic Enforcement Team (SBWESTNET)** and uniformed officers from the **Chino** and **Ontario Police**

**Departments** conducted surveillance on a residence in Ontario suspected of being involved in narcotics trafficking. During the surveillance a vehicle was seen leaving the garage. The vehicle was stopped and discovered to contain 100 pounds of marijuana. A search warrant was served at the residence, where 1,000 pounds of marijuana was seized. The street value for the seizure was \$5,000,000. One suspect was arrested.

**SHIELD Task Force conducts operation “Get In Class” to keep kids in school.**

**Chino/Montclair SHIELD Task Force** (a task force comprised of members of the **Riverside DOJ/BNE-Public Education and Awareness** and **GSET teams**, **Montclair PD**, **Chino PD Crime Impact team**, **San Bernardino Probation**, CVUSD School Security, and SBWESTNET, conducted a truancy sweep at Chino High School, Chino. As a result of the sweep, 27 students were found off campus, 132 students were found out of class on campus, two students were cited for being in possession of graffiti tools, two students were cited for tobacco related offenses, and a small amount of marijuana was located dumped in an area used to process the truant students.

**SHIELD Task Force conducts operation “Get In Class II” to keep kids in school.**

**Chino/Montclair SHIELD Task Force** conducted a Truancy Sweep at Don Lugo High School, Chino. As a result of the sweep, 10 students were found off campus, 143 students were found out of class on campus, 7 students were cited for being in possession of graffiti tools, and one student was returned as a runaway from a correctional school. This operation was the second truancy sweep conducted with CVUSD school security.

**SHIELD Task Force conducts Juvenile warrant sweep.**

**Chino/Montclair SHIELD Task Force** conducted a Juvenile Warrant Sweep in the cities of Chino, Montclair, and Ontario. The focus of the sweep was to find juveniles that had outstanding arrest warrants for narcotic related charges or gang related activity. All of the arrest warrants were Felony No Bail Warrants. Task Force members attempted service on approximately 40 outstanding arrests warrants. As a result of the warrant sweep, four juveniles were found at their residences and taken into custody without incident.

**Search for gang member nets 2 pounds of meth, weapons, and \$15,735.**

**Coachella Valley Violent Crime Gang Task Force Officers** served a search warrant at a residence in Dessert Hot Springs in an effort to arrest a gang member who had injured a CHP officer. The search warrant resulted in the seizure of two pounds of methamphetamine, night vision goggles, body armor, a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun, one stolen .22 caliber revolver, and \$15,735. The brother of the wanted gang member (who is also a gang member) was arrested.

**1,383 pounds of marijuana seized in pleasure craft as it is being pulled from the water.**

**San Diego BNE** agents assigned to the **Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) San Diego Marine Task Force (MTF)** personnel completed a four-day surveillance with the arrest of six suspects on federal charges of importing marijuana into the United States via vessel from Mexico' s territorial waters. A 23 foot Bayliner carrying 1,383 pounds of marijuana was seized, along with two vehicles, after the vessel was being pulled out of the water at in Mission Bay, San Diego. A search warrant was executed at a location in San Diego where two stolen assault rifles, one shotgun, one rifle and a large digital scale were seized. A records check of the two assault rifles revealed they were stolen. No additional arrests were made at the search warrant location. Six suspects were arrested.

**Sweep of military installations for fraudulent private contractors a success.**

**San Diego BNE** agents assigned to the **Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) San Diego Marine Task Force** participated in the arrest phase of "Operation Safe Cities." The operation led to the arrest of 42 persons for various immigration, fraudulent document and felony warrant violations. The operation involved a civilian military contractor who employed persons who had access to military installations in the San Diego area.